

1 That which is claimed is:

2 1. An information management and synchronous communications system for

3 generating and transmitting menus comprising:

4 a. a central processing unit,

5 b. a data storage device connected to said central processing unit,

6 c. an operating system including a graphical user interface,

7 d. a first menu consisting of menu categories, said menu categories

8 consisting of menu items, said first menu stored on said data storage device and displayable in a
9 window of said graphical user interface in a hierarchical tree format,

10 e. a modifier menu stored on said data storage device and displayable in a
11 window of said graphical user interface,

12 f. a sub-modifier menu stored on said data storage device and displayable in
13 a window of said graphical user interface, and

14 g. application software for generating a second menu from said first menu
15 and transmitting said second menu to a wireless handheld computing device or Web page,

16 wherein the application software facilitates the generation of the second menu by

17 allowing selection of categories and items from the first menu, addition of menu categories to the

18 second menu, addition of menu items to the second menu and assignment of parameters to items

19 in the second menu using the graphical user interface of said operating system, said parameters

20 being selected from the modifier and sub-modifier menus, wherein said second menu is manually

21 modified after generation.

22 2. An information management and synchronous communications system for

23 generating menus comprising:

24 a. a central processing unit,

25 b. a data storage device connected to said central
26 processing unit,

- c. an operating system including a graphical user interface,
- d. a first menu stored on said data storage device,
- e. application software for generating a second menu from said first menu,

wherein the application software facilitates the generation of the second menu by

allowing selection of items from the first menu, addition of items to the second menu and assignment of parameters to items in the second menu using the graphical user interface of said operating system and wherein data comprising the second menu is synchronized between the data storage device connected to the central processing unit and at least one other computing device, wherein said second menu is manually modified by handwriting or voice recording after generation.

3. An information management and synchronous communications system for generating menus comprising:

- a. a microprocessor,
- b. a display device,
- c. a data and instruction input device,
- d. a data storage device for storing information and instructions entered through said data and instruction input means or information generated by said microprocessor,
- e. an operating system,
- f. a master menu stored on said data storage device for generating a modified menu, and
- g. application software,

wherein said microprocessor, operating system and application software are operative to display the master menu on the display device in response to instructions programmed into said

1 microprocessor, operating system, application software and information and instructions entered
2 through said data input device, and wherein said microprocessor, operating system and
3 application software are operative to create the modified menu from said master menu in
4 response to information and instructions entered through said data and instruction input device
5 and wherein data comprising the modified menu is synchronized between the data storage device
6 and at least one other computing device, wherein said modified menu is manually modified after
7 generation.

8 4. In a computer system having an input device, a storage device, a video display,
9 an operating system including a graphical user interface and application software, an information
10 management and synchronous communications method comprising the steps of:

- 11 a. outputting at least one window on the video display;
- 12 b. outputting a first menu in a window on the video
13 display;
- 14 c. displaying a cursor on the video display;
- 15 d. selecting items from the first menu with the input
16 device or the graphical user interface;
- 17 e. inserting the items selected from the first menu into
18 a second menu, the second menu being output in a
19 window;
- 20 f. optionally adding additional items not included in
21 the first menu to the second menu using the input
22 device or the graphical user interface;
- 23 g. storing the second menu on the storage device; and

24 synchronizing the data comprising the second menu between the storage device
25 and at least one other data storage medium, wherein the other data storage medium is connected
26 to or is part of a different computing device, and wherein said second menu is manually modified
27 after generation.

- 1 5. The information management and synchronous communications system of
2 claim 1, 2, or 3 wherein the manual modification involves handwriting capture.
- 3 6. The information management and synchronous communications system of
4 claim 1, 2, or 3 wherein the manual modification involves voice capture.
- 5 7. The method of claim 4 wherein the manual modification involves
6 handwriting capture.
- 7 8. The method of claim 4 wherein the manual modification involves voice
8 capture.
- 9 9. The system of claim 1 wherein the modified second menu can be
10 selectively printed on any printer directly from the graphical user interface
11 of a hand-held device.
- 12 10. The system of claim 1 wherein the modified second menu can be linked to
13 a specific customer at a specific table directly from the graphical user
14 interface of a hand-held device.
- 15 11. The system of claim 2 or 3 wherein the modified second menu can be
16 selectively printed on any printer directly from the graphical user interface
17 of said other computing device.
- 18 12. The system of claim 2 or 3 wherein the modified second menu can be
19 linked to a specific customer at a specific table directly from the graphical
20 user interface of said other computing device.
- 21 13. The system of claim 5 wherein the handwriting capture involves
22 handwriting recognition and conversion to text.

14. The system of claim 6 wherein the voice capture involves voice recognition and conversion to text.
 15. The method of claim 7 wherein the handwriting capture involves handwriting recognition and conversion to text.
 16. The method of claim 8 wherein the voice capture involves voice recognition and conversion to text